

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 PER-03 MMO-04 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1940

UNCLAS TAIPEI 8134

PLEASE PASS SCA, EA/EX, AND EA/ROC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, PFOR, AFSP, TW

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO FSL POSITIONS

REF : TAIPEI 6244 AND 3135

SUMMARY: TAIPEI'S ACTUAL WORKLOAD DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1976 VERIFIED THE ESTIMATES MADE IN TAIPEI 6244. WE BELIEVE THAT RECENT CHANGES IN THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT (INA) COUPLED WITH PRESENT LOCAL CONDITIONS WILL RESULT IN AN EVEN GREATER DEMAND FOR SERVICES IN FUTURE MONTHS AND YEARS THAN ESTIMATED REFTELS. SINCE OUR SHORT-TERM ESTIMATES HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED BY ACTUAL WORKLOAD AND OUR NEED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS CRITICAL, REQUEST REPLY TO TAIPEI 6244 AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1976 WE ISSUED 1,457 IMMIGRANT VISAS COMPARED WITH OUR ESTIMATE IN TAIPEI 6244 OF 1,450. DURING THE SAME PERIOD WE REGISTERED 2,174 NEWIV CASES COMPARED WITH OUR ESTIMATE OF 2,000. RECENT CHANGES IN THE INA REQUIRING IV PREFERENCE APPLICANTS TO BEGIN VISA PROCESSING WITHIN TWO YEARS (OR HAVE THEIR PETITIONS REVOKED) AND RESTRICTIONS ON SECTION 245 ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS IN THE USA WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY STIMULATE INCREASED DEMAND FOR IV ISSUANCE HERE.

2. WE HAVE SCHEDULED 776 IV APPOINTMENTS FOR NOVEMBER AND EXPECT ABOUT 740 FOR DECEMBER. WITH OUR PRESENT FSL AND UNCLASSIFIED

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OFFICER STAFF, WE ARE HARD PRESSED TO PROCESS 700 TO 750

APPOINTMENTS PER MONTH. THE DISLOCATIONS AND PROBLEMS WE ENCOUNTERED WHEN WE SCHEDULED 850 APPOINTMENTS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER HAVE CONFIRMED OUR VIEW THAT WE CANNOT PROCESS MORE THAN

750 IV'S PER MONTH ON A CONTINUING BASIS WITH PRESENT STAFF. AN ADMINISTRATIVE WAITING LIST WILL RESULT SHOULD MONTHLY DEMAND INCREASE TOMORE THAN 750 APPOINTMENTS.

3. ON THE BASIS OF PETITIONS RECEIVED OVER THE PAST FIVE MONTHS, IT APPEARS THAT WE MAY WELL BE REGISTERING OVER 1,000 NEW PREFERENCE CASES PER MONTH ON A CONTINUING BASIS. THUS IT APPEARS WE WILL GO OVER OUR 750-APPOINTMENTS-PER-MONTH LIMIT SOON AND BE FORCED TO GO TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE WAITING LIST.

4. THE NONIMMIGRANT WORKLOAD OVER THE PAST FOUR MONTHS (JULY-NOV) SEEMS TO HAVE REACHED A NEWPLATEAU SHOWING A 40 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1975. IN THE SUMMER OF 1977 WE EXPECT A 40 PERCENT INCREASE OVER 1976'S RECORD ISSUANCE WITH NIV STUDENT APPLICATIONS BEING A PARTICULARPROBLEM. REGISTRATIONS HERE FOR THE TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TOEFL) TOTALED 13,169 IN 1976, A 39 PERCENT INCREASE OVER THE 1975 TOTAL OF 9,473. THE ROC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ADVISES THAT THEY EXPECT TO ISSUE FIFTY PERCENT MORE STUDENT PASSPORTS IN 1977 THAN IN 1976. OUR BEST ESTIMATE AT THIS POINT IS THAT THERE WILL BE ABOUT 4,500 NIV STUDENT APPLICANTS IN 1977 WITH ABOUT 80 PERCENT APPLYING DURING JUNE, JULY, AND AUGUST.

5. IN SPITE OF A REDUCED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE ROC, THERE IS A CONTINUING INCREASE IN THE CIVILIAN U.S. CITIZEN POPULATION OF TAIWAN. THE RESULTIS A NET INCREASE IN TIME REQUIRED TOPROCESS THEDEMAND FOR PASSPORT, NOTARIAL, WELFARE, AND PROTECTION SERVICES, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF LITIGATION INVOLVING U.S. BUSINESSMEN ANDOF PRISONER SERVICES. TIME DEVOTED TO BRITISH INTERESTS HAS ALSOINCREASED SUSTANTIALY.

6. I-130 PETITIONS ARE ACTED UPON IN THE AMERICAN SERICES UNIT. ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO PETITIONS RECEIVED INCREASED CONSIDERABLY AND SINCE THAT TIME HAVE AVERAGED ABOUT TWENTY UNCLASSIFIED

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PETITIONS A DAY. WE ARE CONTEMPLATING AN ADMINISTRATIVE WAITING LIST FOR I-130 PETITION CONSIDERATION. WE FIND THAT THE PRESENT COMPLIMENT OF THREE FSL'S (OF WHICH ONE IS CASHIER FOR IV'S ETC.) AND ONE AMERICAN OFFICER (WITH SOME PART-TIME HELP FROM THE AMERICAN INVESTIGATIONS OFFICER) IS INADEQUATE TO THE NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN SERVICES UNIT.

7. IN THE CONSULAR PACKAGE (TAIPEI 3135) WE ASKED FOR TWO

LOCAL POSITIONS AND TWO AMERICAN POSITIONS FOR FY77. WE INDICATED WE THOUGHT WE COULD GET BY IN FY77 WITH ONLY ONE AMERICAN POSITION AND THE TWO LOCAL POSITIONS IF NECESSARY, DEFERRING THE SECOND AMERICAN POSITION UNTIL FY78. IN TAIPEI 6244 WE THREW IN THE SPONGE ON THE FIRST AMERICAN POSITION FOR FY77 BECAUSE WE UNDERSTOOD THAT NO REPEAT NO AMERICAN POSITIONS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR FY77, PARTICULARLY AS WE UNDERSTOOD INFORMALLY THAT EA OWED CONSULAR POSITIONS TO SCA. THIS DEFERRAL OF OUR REQUEST FOR AMERICAN POSITIONS IS SIMPLY TO POINT UP THAT WE BELIEVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TWO LOCAL POSITIONS IS VERY CRITICAL. WE, HOWEVER, STILL NEED THE AMERICAN POSITIONS, PARTICULARLY THE FY77 POSITION.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE REPLY TO TAIPEI 6244 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL TO KNOW WHETHER ANY REPROGRAMMED AMERICAN POSITIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE IN FY77/FY78.

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